$5.95
MYSTIC
funnies
NO.1
WHATAYA MEAN, THERE'RE SIGNS AND OMENS EVERYWHERE, MR. NATURAL ?! I DON'T GET IT!
OH WELL, SKIP IT, FLAKEY FOONT...
EVERY LINE A SUPREME ACT OF WILL
by R. CRUMB

MR. NATURAL & FLAKEY FOONT
THINKIN' ABOUT DEATH 'N' STUFF

I'M IN PAIN BUT I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
NO! I WANT TO LIVE AND ENJOY LIFE!
SURE YOU DO!
SLEET
HONK
DEATH... THE END OF MYSELF... NO MORE ME... IT'S... IT'S INCOMPREHENSIBLE!
WORK ON IT...
I GUESS WHAT IT COMES DOWN TO IS THAT I CAN'T BEAR TO LET GO OF MY SELF, HUH? THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT, MR. NATURAL?
YES, OF COURSE, FLAKEY FOONT...
WELL, OKAY, MAYBE IT'S NOT THE END OF MYSELF... MAYBE IT'S JUST LIKE, Y'KNOW, GOING TO SLEEP AND THEN YOU — YOU WAKE UP IN, Y'KNOW, LIKE, A NEW BODY... A DIFFERENT FORM OR SOMETHING...
HM... FOOD FOR THOUGHT!
WHO ARE YOU??
OH BOY, THERE YOU GO...
PLOP
THEN THE NEXT QUESTION IS....
THE NEXT QUESTION IS....
R. CRUMB '97

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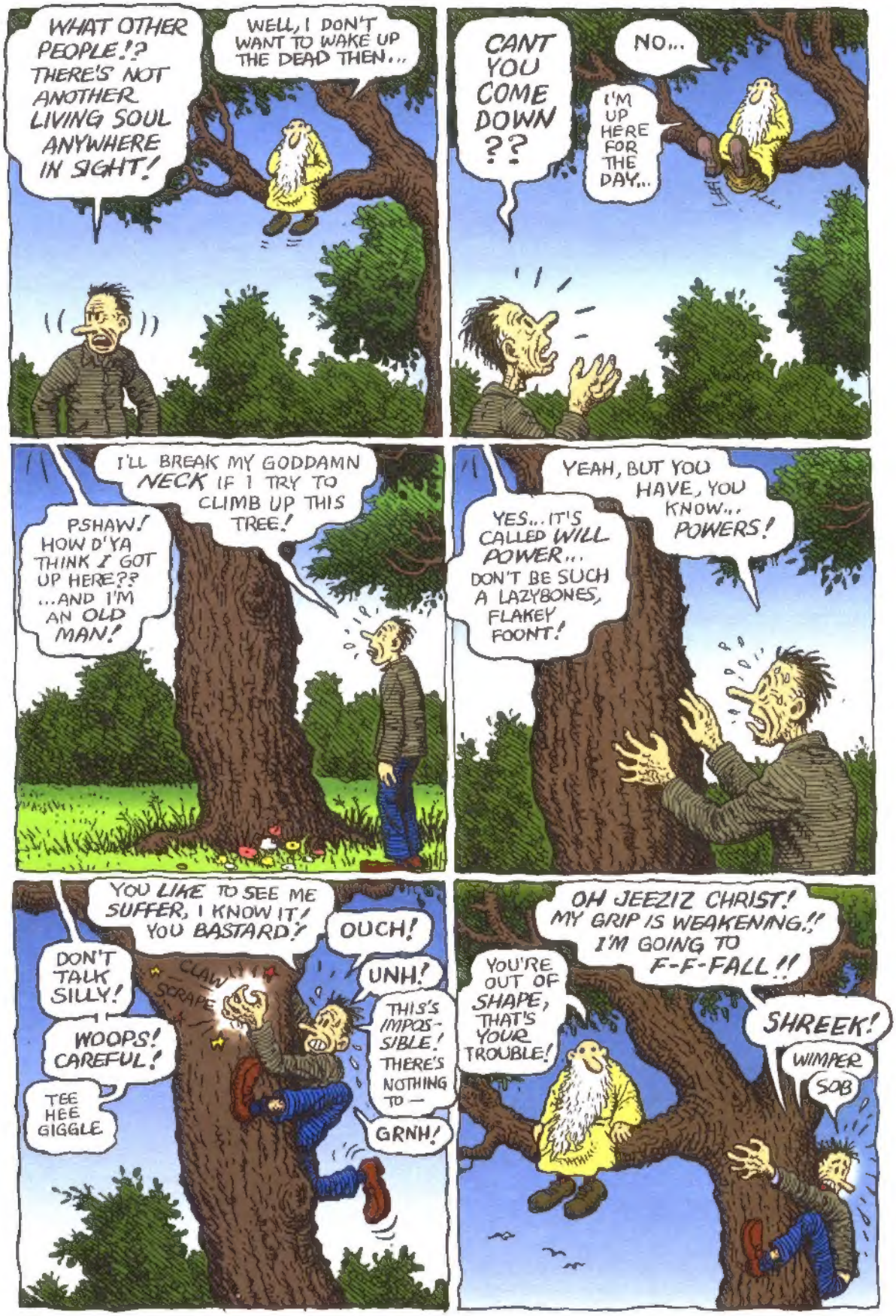
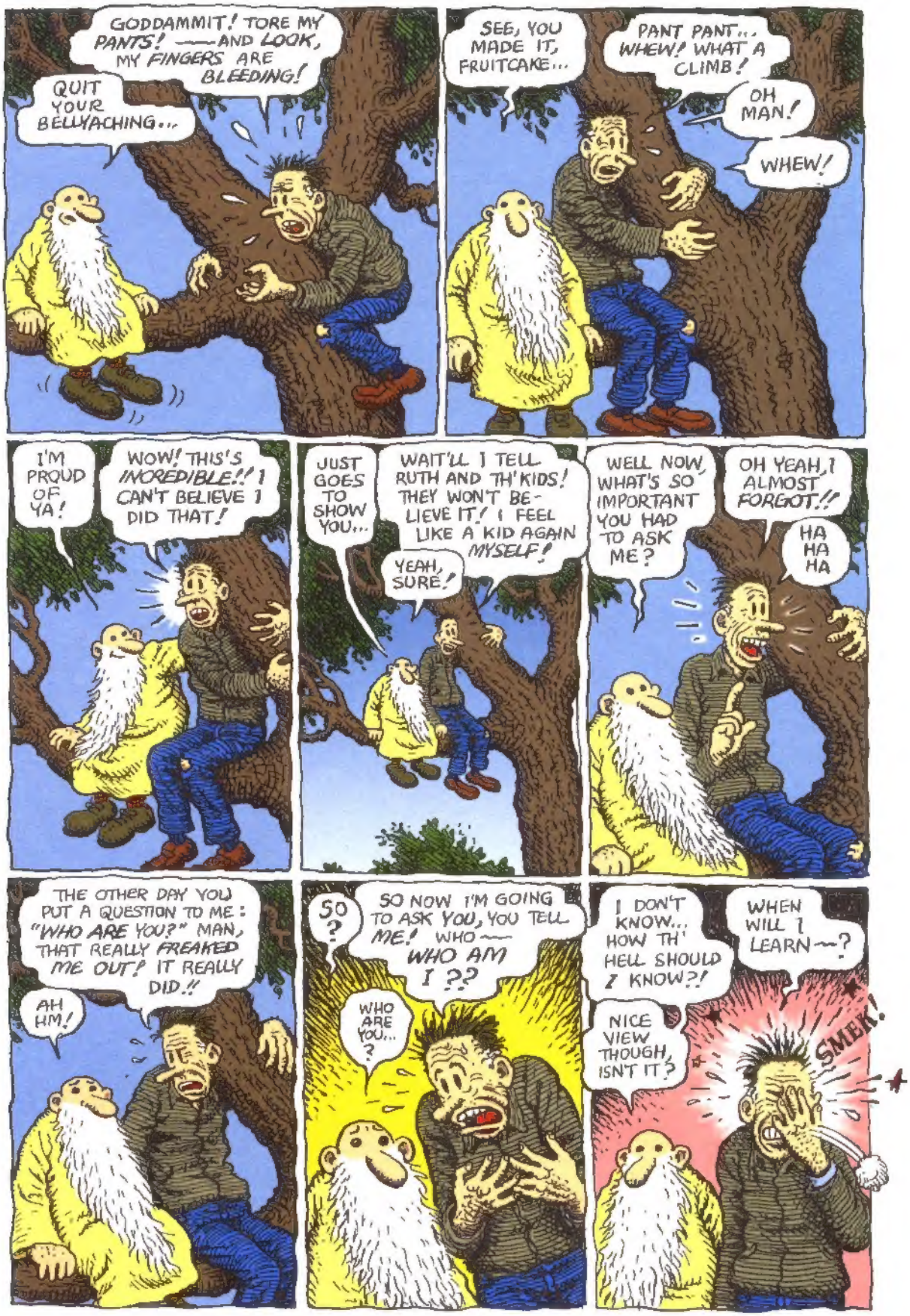
MR. NATURAL & FLAKEY FOONT in "WHO ARE YOU?"

"WHO ARE YOU?"
MAN, DID THAT EVER STOP ME COLD! I MUST FIND MR. NATURAL NOW AND ASK HIM IF — IF HE KNOWS WHO I AM!
AIDS TEST
A.I.D.S. CLINIC
SOMETIMES HE COMES HERE, TO THIS QUIET SECTION OF THE PARK...
@☆%#! I'M SO VEXED!!
AN HOUR PASSES...
FUCK! I CAN'T FIND HIM! I'VE SEARCHED EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY OF THIS PLACE!
SHIT!
I HAVE THIS FEELING THAT HE'S HERE SOMEWHERE...
... CLOSE BY, EVEN...
...THAT HE'S WATCHING ME....
I FEEL HIS EYES ON ME...
ULP
WHU-!? THERE HE IS AL-RIGHT! THAT WILEY OLD TRICKSTER!!
MR. NATURAL! I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU! IT'S SORT OF IMPORTANT! OKAY??
ALRIGHT... COME UP HERE THEN, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO SHOUT AT EACH OTHER AND DISTURB THE OTHER PEOPLE!

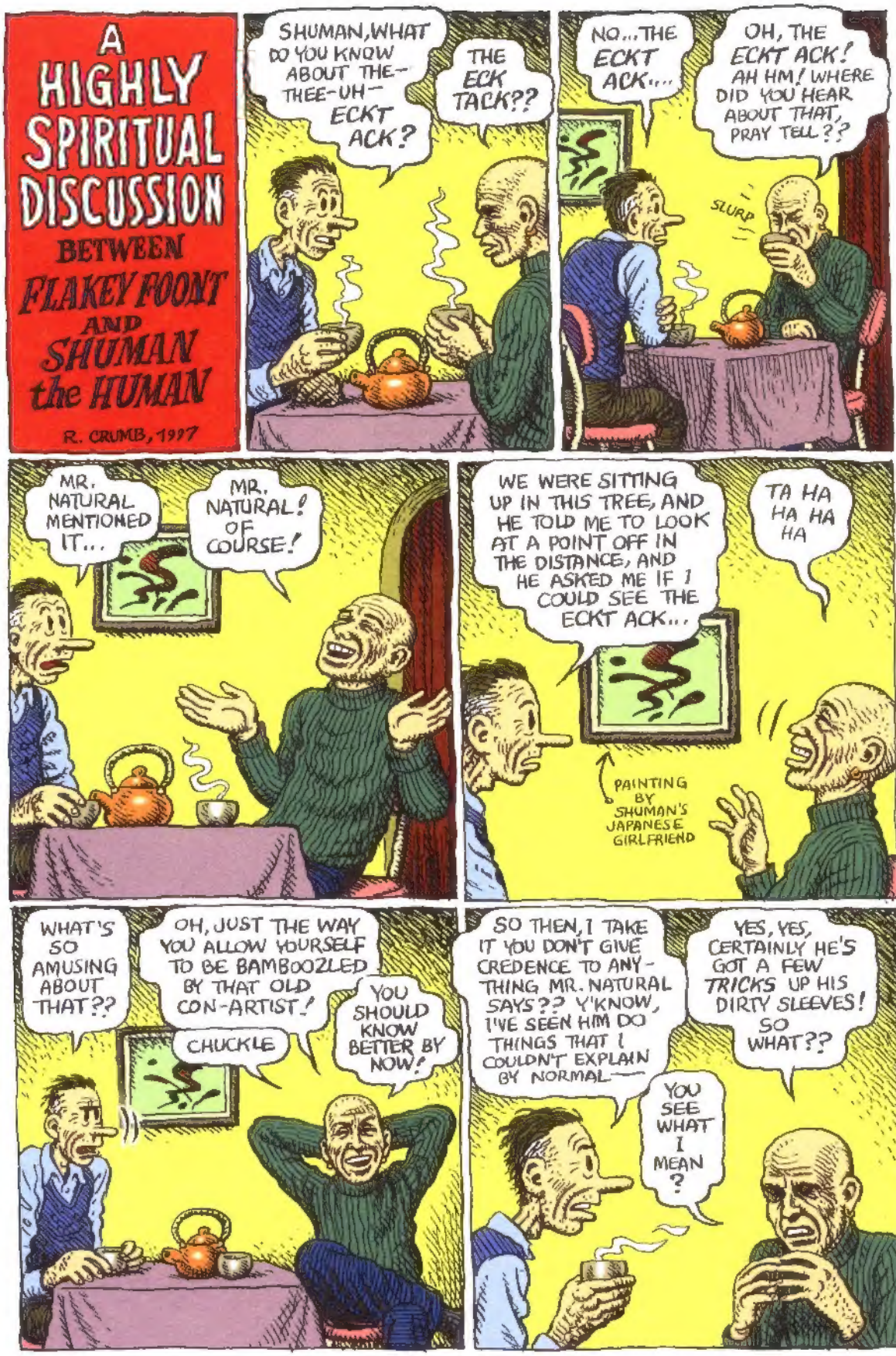

WHAT OTHER PEOPLE!? THERE'S NOT ANOTHER LIVING SOUL ANYWHERE IN SIGHT!
WELL, I DON'T WANT TO WAKE UP THE DEAD THEN...
CANT YOU COME DOWN ??
NO...
I'M UP HERE FOR THE DAY...
I'LL BREAK MY GODDAMN NECK IF I TRY TO CLIMB UP THIS TREE!
PSHAW! HOW D'YA THINK I GOT UP HERE?? ...AND I'M AN OLD MAN!
YEAH, BUT YOU HAVE, YOU KNOW... POWERS!
YES... IT'S CALLED WILL POWER... DON'T BE SUCH A LAZYBONES, FLAKEY FOONT!
YOU LIKE TO SEE ME SUFFER, I KNOW IT! YOU BASTARD!
OUCH!
UNH!
DON'T TALK SILLY!
CLAW
SCRAPE
WOOPS! CAREFUL!
THIS'S IMPOS-SIBLE! THERE'S NOTHING TO —
TEE HEE GIGGLE
GRNH!
OH JEEZIZ CHRIST! MY GRIP IS WEAKENING!! I'M GOING TO F-F-FALL!!
YOU'RE OUT OF SHAPE, THAT'S YOUR TROUBLE!
SHREEK!
WIMPER
SOB

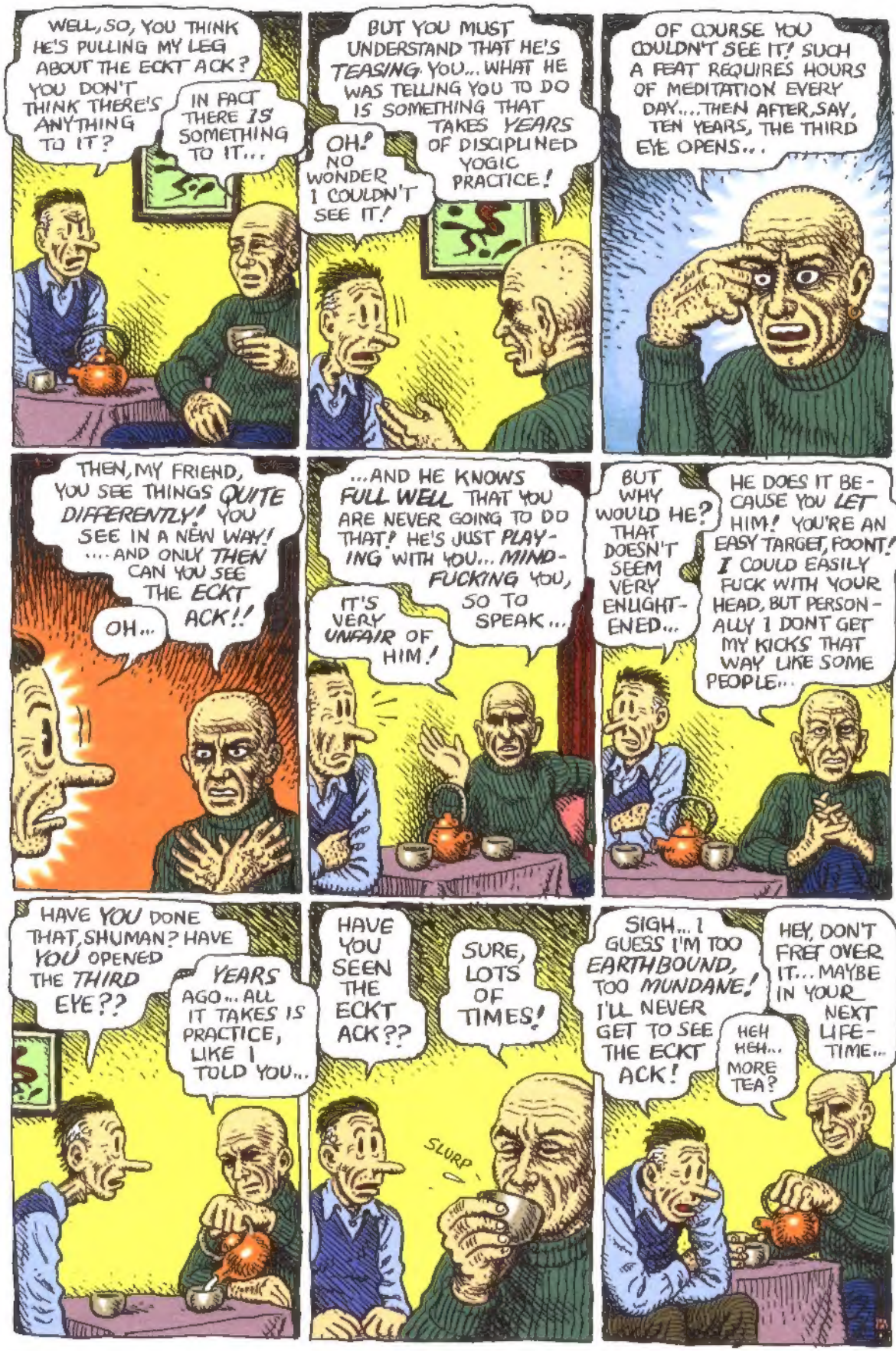

GODDAMMIT! TORE MY PANTS! —AND LOOK, MY FINGERS ARE BLEEDING!
QUIT YOUR BELLYACHING...
SEE, YOU MADE IT, FRUITCAKE...
PANT PANT... WHEW! WHAT A CLIMB!
OH MAN!
WHEW!
I'M PROUD OF YA!
WOW! THIS'S INCREDIBLE!! I CAN'T BELIEVE I DID THAT!
JUST GOES TO SHOW YOU...
WAIT'LL I TELL RUTH AND TH'KIDS! THEY WON'T BELIEVE IT! I FEEL LIKE A KID AGAIN MYSELF!
YEAH, SURE!
WELL NOW, WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT YOU HAD TO ASK ME?
OH YEAH, I ALMOST FORGOT!!
HA HA HA
THE OTHER DAY YOU PUT A QUESTION TO ME: "WHO ARE YOU?" MAN, THAT REALLY FREAKED ME OUT! IT REALLY DID!!
AH HM!
SO?
SO NOW I'M GOING TO ASK YOU, YOU TELL ME! WHO— WHO AM I??
WHO ARE YOU...?
I DON'T KNOW... HOW TH' HELL SHOULD I KNOW?!
WHEN WILL I LEARN—?
NICE VIEW THOUGH, ISN'T IT?
SMEK!

MR. NATURAL & FLAKEY FOONT in "LOOK AND SEE!"

SIGH...
SHHH... KEEP STILL FOR A MOMENT, FLAKEY FOONT...
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM??
GRUNT...
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE...
OH...
OF COURSE! IT'S UP TO ME TO KNOW MYSELF!!
IT'S UP TO ME!!
YEP... WHAT A REVEL-ATION!
ONCE AGAIN YOU HAVE OPENED MY EYES, MR. NATURAL...
ALL IN DAY'S WORK! HEH HEH
THANK YOU!
AFTER ALL TH' TROUBLE YOU WENT TO CLIMBING UP HERE AN' ALL... IT'S THE LEAST I COULD DO!
I'M SORT OF A PEST, HUH?
IT'S MY KARMA...

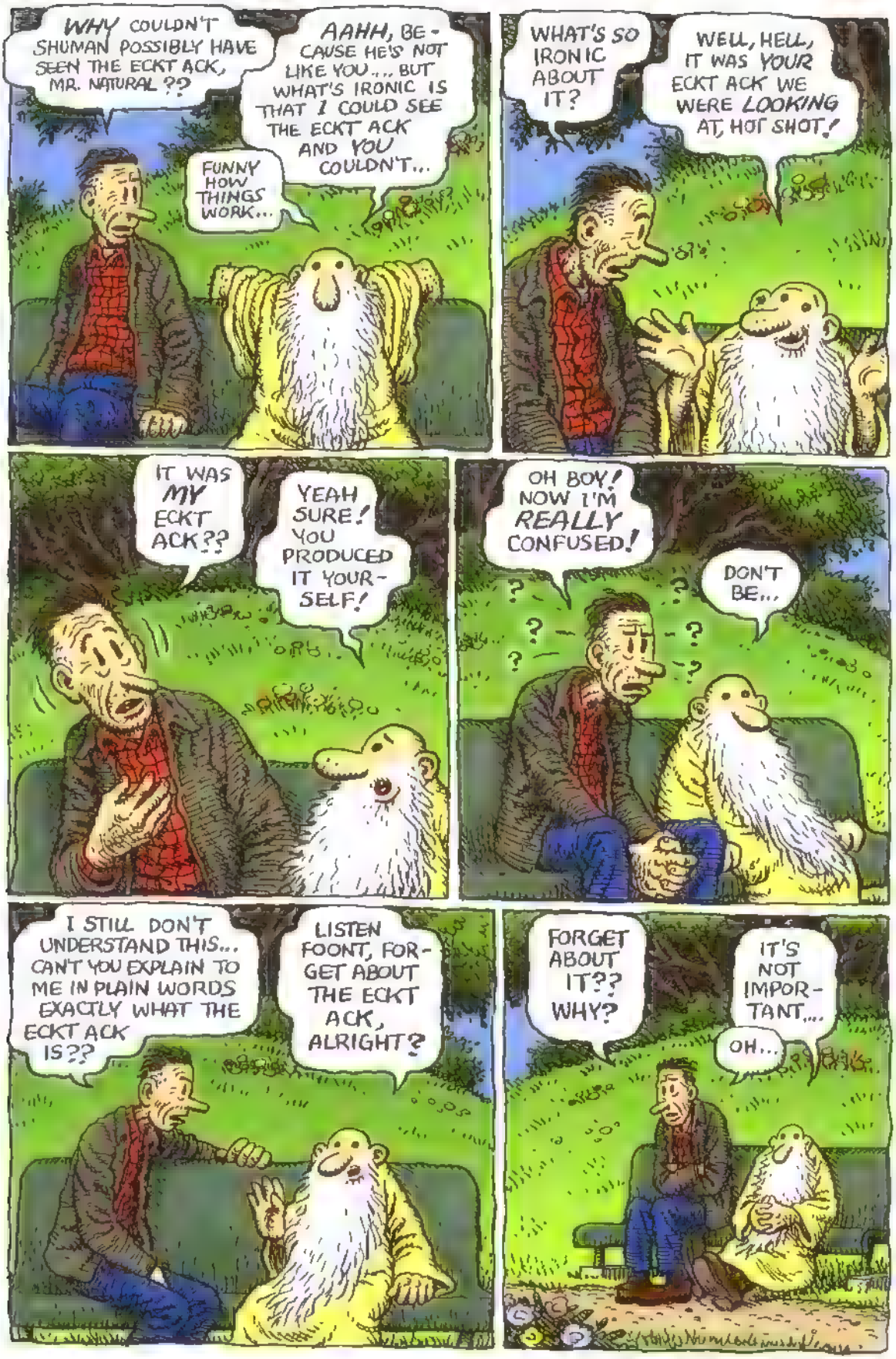
ALRIGHT, WELL, I'LL GO DOWN NOW AND LEAVE YOU IN PEACE...
NO, WAIT... TARRY AWHILE, BUNKY... WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?
SIDDOWN, RELAX... LOOK OUT THERE...
REALLY? I'M NOT BOTHERING YOU?? I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE MY PRESENCE IS GETTING ON YOUR NERVES... LIKE I'M—
NO NO, LOOK OUT THERE!
WHAT? WHERE??
'WAY OFF THERE IN THE DISTANCE! LOOK, SEE?
WHAT!? WHAT'S THERE??
AS FAR AS YOU CAN SEE, 'WAY 'WAY OVER THERE! LOOK LONG AND HARD...
WHERE? IN THOSE TREES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FIELD??
YEAH...
THROUGH THE TREES, BABE... DEEP IN THE DISTANCE... INTO THE FURTHEST DARK SPOT IN THE FOLIAGE OVER THERE!
I'M LOOKING, BUT WHAT IS IT I'M SUPPOSED TO SEE?!
YOU'LL SEE IT, NOW THAT I'VE "OPENED YOUR EYES"!
SEE IT YET?
NO—SEE WHAT??
THE ECKT ACK! KEEP LOOKING, 'WAY OFF THERE, THAT DARK SPOT IN THE TREES...
THE WHAT?! THE ECK TACK?!
NO... THE ECKT ACK...

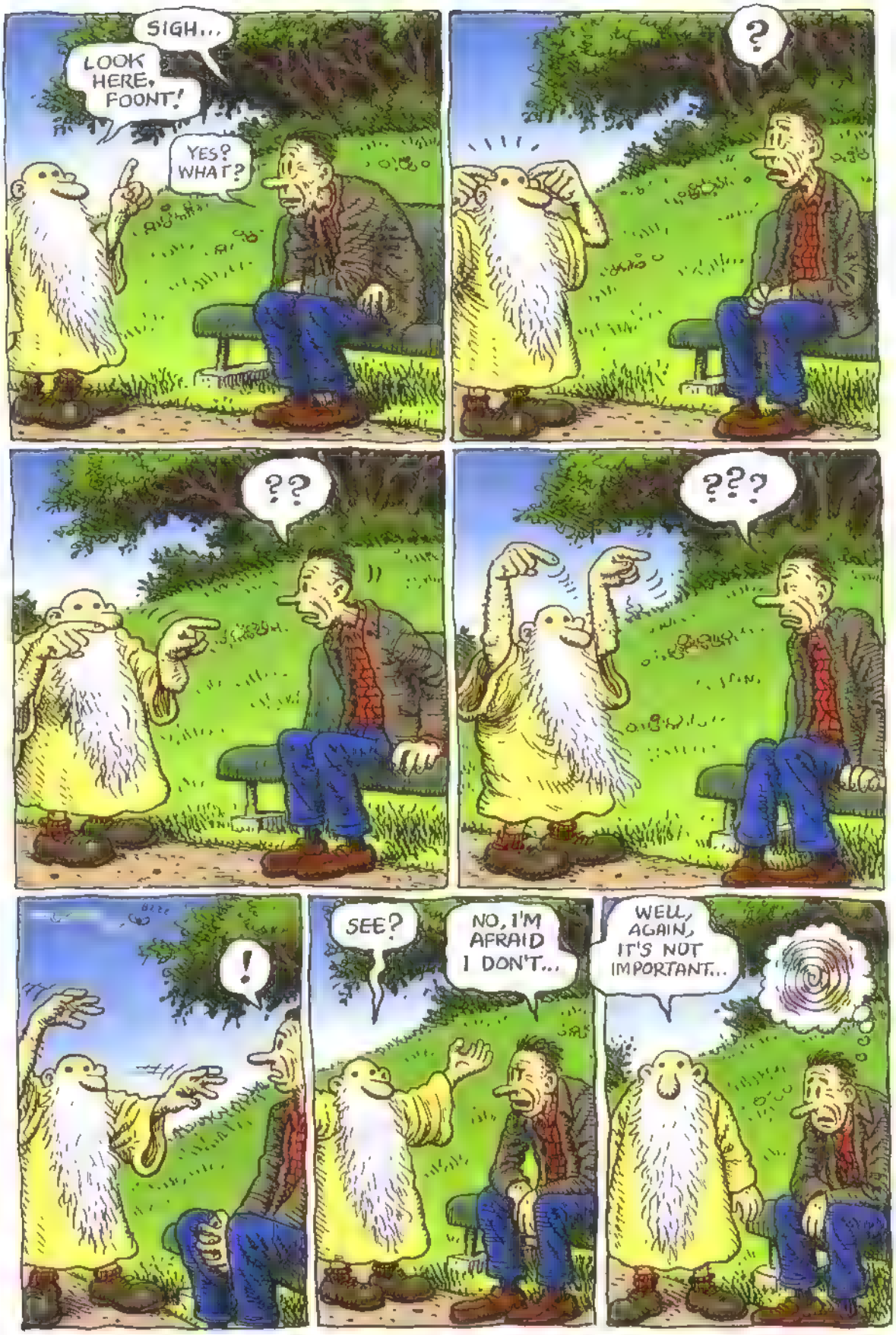

A HIGHLY SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN FLAKEY FOONT AND SHUMAN the HUMAN
R. CRUMB, 1997
SHUMAN, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE-THEE-UH-ECKT ACK?
THE ECK TACK??
NO...THE ECKT ACK....
OH, THE ECKT ACK! AH HM! WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT, PRAY TELL??
SLURP
MR. NATURAL MENTIONED IT...
MR. NATURAL! OF COURSE!
WE WERE SITTING UP IN THIS TREE, AND HE TOLD ME TO LOOK AT A POINT OFF IN THE DISTANCE, AND HE ASKED ME IF I COULD SEE THE ECKT ACK...
TA HA HA HA HA
PAINTING BY SHUMAN'S JAPANESE GIRLFRIEND
WHAT'S SO AMUSING ABOUT THAT??
OH, JUST THE WAY YOU ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE BAMBOOZLED BY THAT OLD CON-ARTIST!
CHUCKLE
YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER BY NOW!
SO THEN, I TAKE IT YOU DON'T GIVE CREDENCE TO ANY-THING MR. NATURAL SAYS?? Y'KNOW, I'VE SEEN HIM DO THINGS THAT I COULDN'T EXPLAIN BY NORMAL—
YES, YES, CERTAINLY HE'S GOT A FEW TRICKS UP HIS DIRTY SLEEVES! SO WHAT??
YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN?


WELL, SO, YOU THINK HE'S PULLING MY LEG ABOUT THE ECKT ACK?
YOU DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING TO IT?
IN FACT THERE IS SOMETHING TO IT...
BUT YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT HE'S TEASING YOU... WHAT HE WAS TELLING YOU TO DO IS SOMETHING THAT TAKES YEARS OF DISCIPLINED YOGIC PRACTICE!
OH! NO WONDER I COULDN'T SEE IT!
OF COURSE YOU COULDN'T SEE IT! SUCH A FEAT REQUIRES HOURS OF MEDITATION EVERY DAY... THEN AFTER, SAY, TEN YEARS, THE THIRD EYE OPENS...
THEN, MY FRIEND, YOU SEE THINGS QUITE DIFFERENTLY! YOU SEE IN A NEW WAY! ... AND ONLY THEN CAN YOU SEE THE ECKT ACK!!
OH...
...AND HE KNOWS FULL WELL THAT YOU ARE NEVER GOING TO DO THAT! HE'S JUST PLAYING WITH YOU... MINDFUCKING YOU, SO TO SPEAK...
IT'S VERY UNFAIR OF HIM!
BUT WHY WOULD HE? THAT DOESN'T SEEM VERY ENLIGHTENED...
HE DOES IT BECAUSE YOU LET HIM! YOU'RE AN EASY TARGET, FOONT! I COULD EASILY FUCK WITH YOUR HEAD, BUT PERSONALLY I DONT GET MY KICKS THAT WAY LIKE SOME PEOPLE...
HAVE YOU DONE THAT, SHUMAN? HAVE YOU OPENED THE THIRD EYE??
YEARS AGO... ALL IT TAKES IS PRACTICE, LIKE I TOLD YOU...
HAVE YOU SEEN THE ECKT ACK??
SURE, LOTS OF TIMES!
SLURP
SIGH... I GUESS I'M TOO EARTHBOUND, TOO MUNDANE! I'LL NEVER GET TO SEE THE ECKT ACK!
HEH HEH... MORE TEA?
HEY, DON'T FRET OVER IT... MAYBE IN YOUR NEXT LIFETIME...

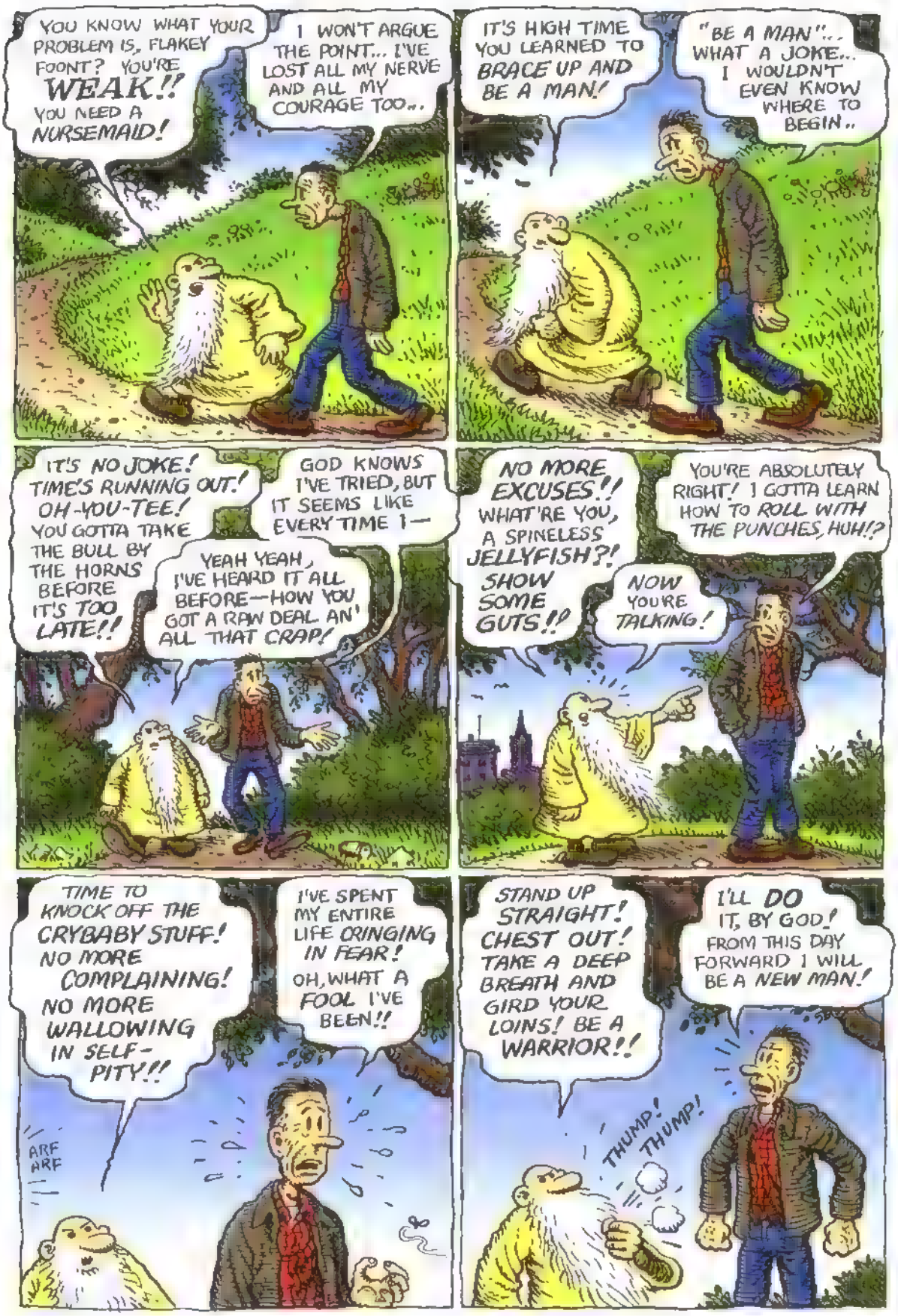
AH YES, SO IT GOES *with* MR. NATURAL & FLAKEY FOONT

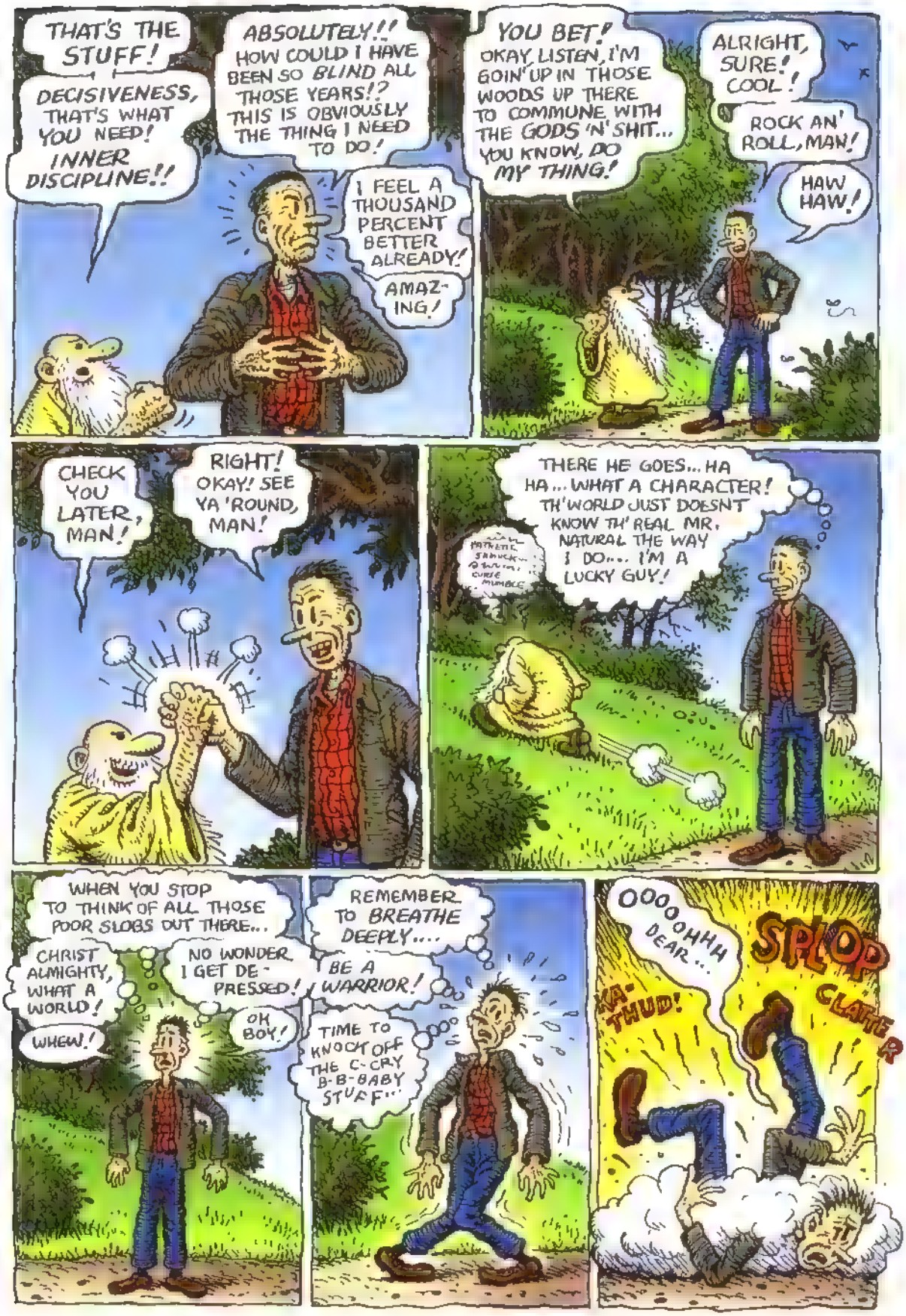
AH, THERE YOU ARE!
YESSIR, HERE I AM...
I SPOKE WITH SHUMAN ABOUT THE ECKT ACK!
DID YOU NOW?!
HE SEEMED TO KNOW ALL ABOUT IT, CLAIMS HE'S SEEN THE ECKT ACK LOTS OF TIMES!
OH YEAH?
BUT HE SAYS IT TAKES YEARS OF DOING YOGA AND MEDITATION, AND YOU HAVE TO OPEN THE THIRD EYE!
HE'S FULL OF SHIT, THAT BIG PHONY!
REALLY? WHY? ARE YOU SAYING IT DOESN'T TAKE YEARS OF, YOU KNOW—
HAVE A SEAT, FLAKEY FOONT...
SHUMAN COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE SEEN THE ECKT ACK! NO WAY, JOSE!
REALLY? HEH HEH HEH
WHAT A LIAR!


WHY COULDN'T SHUMAN POSSIBLY HAVE SEEN THE ECKT ACK, MR. NATURAL ??
AAHH, BECAUSE HE'S NOT LIKE YOU... BUT WHAT'S IRONIC IS THAT I COULD SEE THE ECKT ACK AND YOU COULDN'T...
FUNNY HOW THINGS WORK...
WHAT'S SO IRONIC ABOUT IT?
WELL, HELL, IT WAS YOUR ECKT ACK WE WERE LOOKING AT, HOT SHOT!
IT WAS MY ECKT ACK??
YEAH SURE! YOU PRODUCED IT YOURSELF!
OH BOY! NOW I'M REALLY CONFUSED!
DON'T BE...
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS... CAN'T YOU EXPLAIN TO ME IN PLAIN WORDS EXACTLY WHAT THE ECKT ACK IS??
LISTEN FOONT, FORGET ABOUT THE ECKT ACK, ALRIGHT?
FORGET ABOUT IT?? WHY?
IT'S NOT IMPORTANT....
OH...


SIGH...
LOOK HERE, FOONT!
YES? WHAT?
?
??
???
!
SEE?
NO, I'M AFRAID I DON'T...
WELL, AGAIN, IT'S NOT IMPORTANT...

HO BOY... I SHOULD GO HOME... GOTTA FACE UP TO MY RESPONSIBILITIES...
OY
THERE'S ALOT OF PAIN IN YOU, FOONT... I CAN SEE THAT... YOU'RE A TORMENTED SOUL...
OH MAN, AIN'T IT THE TRUTH! I'M A WRECK... I'M ALL WORN OUT WITH WORRY AN' STRESS!
I CAN SEE YOUR ANGUISH, FOONT... IT'S RADIATING OUT OF YOU IN ALL DIRECTIONS... YOUR BODY IS WRACKED WITH IT... I DEEPLY SYMPATHIZE...
SLEEPLESS NIGHTS... CONSTIPA - TION... DIZZY SPELLS... SNIFF..
YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, SIR, YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY YOUR - SELF SO MUCH!
SOB SOB BLUHRR..
PAT PAT
THAT'S ALRIGHT... GO AHEAD, HAVE A GOOD CRY... IT'S A TOUGH OLD WORLD AT THAT...
BLUBBER CHOKE AHUHH.. SPLUT.
AAIENHH! AHUHH! AHUHH! SNUCK SNURK
ALRIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH!
SMEK!
!
ON YOUR FEET! LET'S GO!
HUH?? WHAT?? JEEZIZ, YOU'RE A HARSH TASKMASTER!!
RUB RUB


YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS, FLAKEY FOONT? YOU'RE WEAK!! YOU NEED A NURSEMAID!
I WON'T ARGUE THE POINT... I'VE LOST ALL MY NERVE AND ALL MY COURAGE TOO..
IT'S HIGH TIME YOU LEARNED TO BRACE UP AND BE A MAN!
"BE A MAN"... WHAT A JOKE... I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN..
IT'S NO JOKE! TIME'S RUNNING OUT! OH-YOU-TEE! YOU GOTTA TAKE THE BULL BY THE HORNS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!
GOD KNOWS I'VE TRIED, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE EVERY TIME I—
YEAH YEAH, I'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE—HOW YOU GOT A RAW DEAL AN' ALL THAT CRAP!
NO MORE EXCUSES!! WHAT'RE YOU, A SPINELESS JELLYFISH?! SHOW SOME GUTS!!
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT! I GOTTA LEARN HOW TO ROLL WITH THE PUNCHES, HUH!?
NOW YOU'RE TALKING!
TIME TO KNOCK OFF THE CRYBABY STUFF! NO MORE COMPLAINING! NO MORE WALLOWING IN SELF-PITY!!
I'VE SPENT MY ENTIRE LIFE CRINGING IN FEAR! OH, WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!!
ARF ARF
STAND UP STRAIGHT! CHEST OUT! TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND GIRD YOUR LOINS! BE A WARRIOR!!
I'LL DO IT, BY GOD! FROM THIS DAY FORWARD I WILL BE A NEW MAN!
THUMP! THUMP!


THAT'S THE STUFF!
DECISIVENESS, THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED! INNER DISCIPLINE!!
ABSOLUTELY!! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND ALL THOSE YEARS!? THIS IS OBVIOUSLY THE THING I NEED TO DO!
I FEEL A THOUSAND PERCENT BETTER ALREADY!
AMAZ-ING!
YOU BET! OKAY, LISTEN, I'M GOIN' UP IN THOSE WOODS UP THERE TO COMMUNE WITH THE GODS 'N' SHIT... YOU KNOW, DO MY THING!
ALRIGHT, SURE! COOL!
ROCK AN' ROLL, MAN!
HAW HAW!
CHECK YOU LATER, MAN!
RIGHT! OKAY! SEE YA 'ROUND, MAN!
THERE HE GOES... HA HA... WHAT A CHARACTER! TH' WORLD JUST DOESN'T KNOW TH' REAL MR. NATURAL THE WAY I DO... I'M A LUCKY GUY!
WHEN YOU STOP TO THINK OF ALL THOSE POOR SLOBS OUT THERE...
CHRIST ALMIGHTY, WHAT A WORLD!
NO WONDER I GET DE-PRESSED!
WHEW!
OK BOY!
REMEMBER TO BREATHE DEEPLY....
BE A WARRIOR!
TIME TO KNOCK OFF THE C-CRY B-B-BABY STUFF...
OOOOHHH DEAR...
SPLOP
KA-THUD!
CLATTER

MR. NATURAL & FLAKEY FOONT in BIG MAN

I, UM... HAVE TO SAY THIS, MR. NATURAL... THAT IS, IT SEEMS TO ME — WELL, THAT YOU'VE — UM — THAT IS —
LATELY, I'VE NOTICED THAT YOU'VE BECOME SORT OF, KIND OF DISTANT.... REMOVED...
REMOTE, IF YOU WILL... I DUNNO...
WHATAYA THINK? WHAT'S GOING ON?? YOU'VE GOTTEN SO, Y'KNOW, MYSTERIOUS! INSCRUTABLE!
BEING A HYPERSENSITIVE TYPE, I TAKE IT PERSONALLY, OF COURSE...
M!
MAYBE YOU'D JUST RATHER NOT SOCIALIZE WITH ME ANYMORE, IS THAT IT??
MAYBE YOU'RE FED UP WITH ME AND YOU'D JUST AS SOON I MADE MYSELF SCARCE...
HUH, MAYBE?
YOU ALWAYS SAID TALK IS CHEAP, BUT JEEZIZ, A LITTLE COMMUNICATION HERE WOULD BE, YOU KNOW, HELPFUL, AND — UH — WHU —?!
WHAT THE SAM HILL — ?!

YOU'RE — YOU'RE GROWING TALLER!!
YOU ALWAYS THOUGHT OF ME AS A SHORT GUY, DIDN'T YOU, FLAKEY FOONT?!
WELL, I — I — IT'S AS IF I'M REALLY SEEING YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME!
RIGHTO, GUVNOR...
YER EYES HAVE BEEN OPENED...
YET I'M HAVING TROUBLE BELIEVING WHAT I'M SEEING HERE!
AM I AWAKE? IS THIS REAL??
YOU OUGHT TO KNOW IF YOU'RE AWAKE OR NOT!
Y-YES, BUT — MY GOD!!
THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY, FOONT... I DON'T SHOW MY TRUE SELF TO JUST ANYBODY... THAT SHMUCK SHUMAN THE HUMAN FOR INSTANCE. HE'LL NEVER GET THE
WHAT? WHAT??
I CAN'T HEAR YOU ANYMORE!! I CAN'T EVEN SEE YOUR HEAD ANY-MORE!

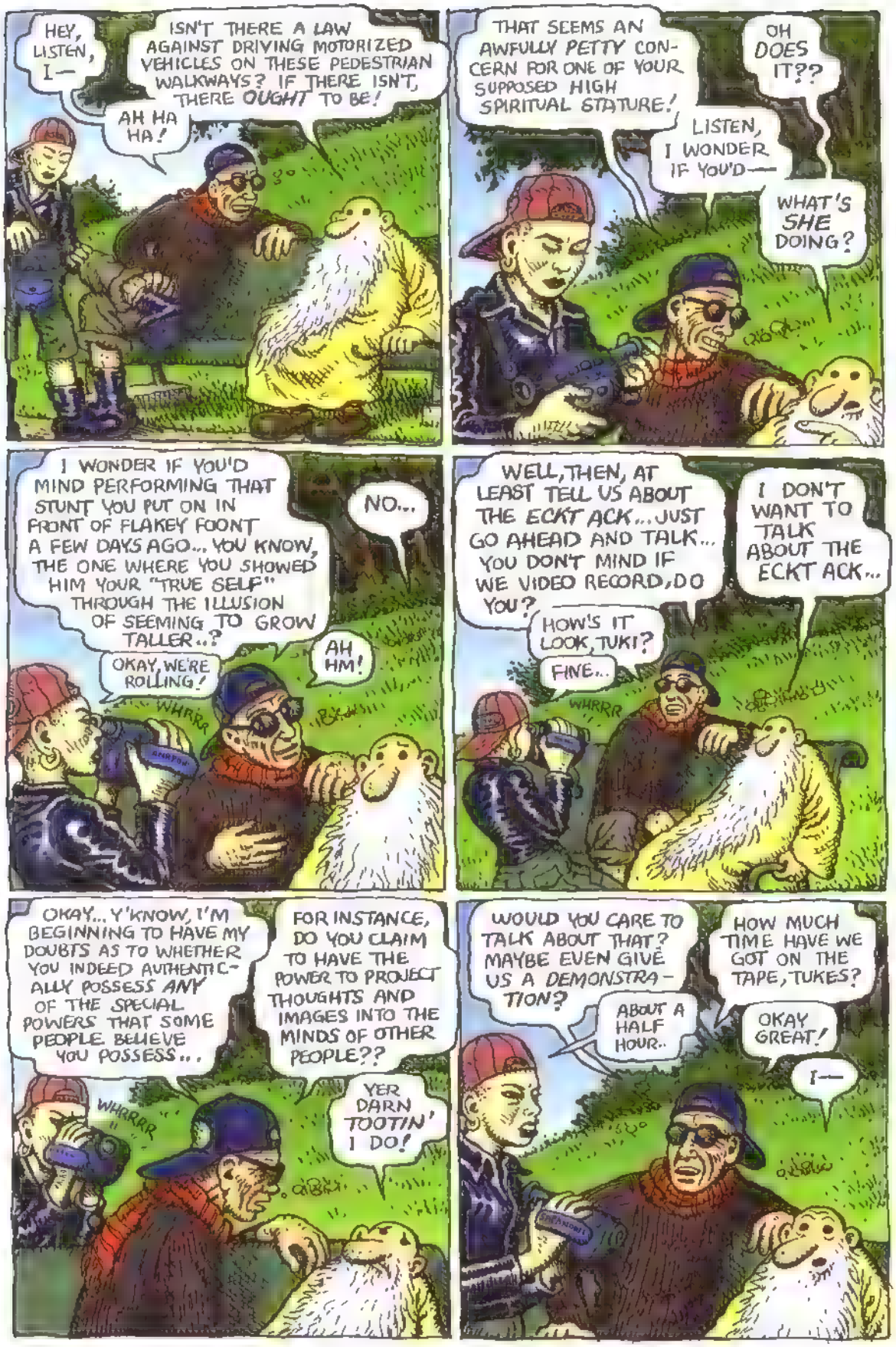
HE'S GONE CLEAR THROUGH TH' TREE TOPS AND TOTALLY OUT OF SIGHT!
UNBE-LIEVABLE!
...BUT SOMEHOW I'M NOT AT ALL SURPRISED BY THIS TURN OF EVENTS...
IT'S AS IF THE ILLUSION OF THE LITTLE MAN HAS BEEN SUDDENLY CLEARED AWAY....
AND IT SEEMS I ALWAYS KNEW IT WAS AN ILLUSION... ...STRANGE...
YES, IT'S TRUE! I'VE ALWAYS INSTINCTIVELY SENSED THE-THE UN-REALITY OF THE PHYSICAL PERSONHOOD OF MR. NATURAL!
HIS PHYSICAL BEING WAS MERELY A-A SYMBOL — A METAPHOR!!
WOW! I'M REALLY GETTING IT HERE! THIS IS TRULY A MIND-EXPANDING EXPERIENCE!
...MEANWHILE, WHY HAS HE CHOSEN TO LEAVE ME STANDING HERE TALKIN' TO HIS FEET!?
WHAT GOOD IS THAT SUPPOSED TO DO ME??
WHAT CAN HIS FEET TELL ME??
MY FEET ARE JUST AS GOOD AS YOUR FEET, FLAKEY FOONT!
-AND THEY CAN TELL YOU PLENTY!
DON'T BE FOOLISH!
EEK!!

OMEN IN THE GLOAMIN' WITH MR. NATURAL AND THE GANG

YEAH, SO, UH, THERE I WAS, LOOKING AT HIS FEET, AND I SAID, WHAT AM I S'POSED TO DO NOW, TALK TO HIS FEET?? WHAT GOOD WILL THAT DO ME??
YES, GO ON! WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
WHRRRR
WELL, SUDDENLY HE WAS RIGHT IN MY FACE, SAYING, "MY FEET COULD TELL YOU PLENTY!" SCARED THE HELL OUT OF ME! I MEAN, IT WAS MOST BIZARRE, I'M NOT KIDDING!
BIZARRE PERHAPS — TO THE UNINITIATED... SO, IS THAT ALL?
WHRRRR
...HE TOLD ME I SHOULD TALK TO HIS, UM, FEET... THAT I NEEDED TO "ADDRESS THE FEET!.. THEN HE WAS GONE AGAIN AND I WAS LEFT STARING DOWN AT HIS SHOES...
— AND DID YOU — HEH HEH — IN FACT, "ADDRESS THE FEET"? HA HA...
WHRRRR
NO... I LEFT... I TURNED AND WALKED AWAY...
YOU DID WHAT??!
WHRRRRR
I — I FELT SILLY STANDING THERE LOOKING AT HIS SHOES, SO I DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO... SORT OF... UM...
OH YOU FOOL!! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! YOU BLIND, IGNORANT FOOL!
WHRRRR
WHAT, I SHOULD'VE STOOD THERE AND SAID, YOU KNOW, "HEY, FEET, WHAT'S GOIN' ON? LIKE, WHAT'S THE DEAL HERE," OR WHAT??
A PITY, BUT I SUPPOSE YOU CAN'T BE BLAMED... SO, MR. NATURAL IS ONE OF THE SEVEN SAGES!!
INCREDIBLE!
WHRRRRR

THE SEVEN SAGES??
YES, ONE OF THE SEVEN SECRET ADEPTS! AND YOU, MY FRIEND, WALKED AWAY! YOU TURNED YOUR BACK ON AN OPPORTUNITY THAT YOU MIGHT NEVER HAVE AGAIN! YOU BLEW IT, MAN!
I DID..?
'FRAID SO...
WHRRR
YOU BLEW THE CHANCE TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH A META-PHYSIOLOGICAL (NOT META-PHYSICAL) ORGONOMIC HIGHER INTELLIGENCE, WHOM WE NORMALLY SEE ONLY AS A FUNNY LITTLE OLD GUY CALLED "MR. NATURAL"!
OH MY GOD! I HAD NO IDEA!
WHR
BUT NEVERMIND, GO HOME TO YOUR MOTHER-WOMB-BIO-SURVIVAL-ROBOT-LEFT-BRAIN EXISTENCE AND DON'T FRET ABOUT IT! POST-LARVAL HIGHER-CIRCUIT BLISS STATES AREN'T FOR EVERY-ONE!
OH SHIT! BATTERY'S GONE DEAD!
BRRZT!
ULTIMATELY IT DOESN'T MATTER, REALLY... DON'T TAKE IT BADLY...
YOU OKAY?
YEAH..
HEH HEH
WELL, HEY, LISTEN, HATE TO GIVE YA THE BOOT, OLD PAL, BUT TUKI AND I HAVE A DATE WITH DESTINY! COME ON, TUKES!
I NEED TO GET GOING ANY-WAY...
SHOULD I BRING THE VIDEO CAMERA?
ABSO-LUTELY!
SEE YOU LATER, SHUMAN! 'BYE, TUKI!
RIGHT...
BRUMM
BRUMM

SHUMAN'S GIRLFRIEND SURE IS CUTE...
BLADA BAROOMM
NOW FOR THE ACTION PART OF THIS COMIC!
BRAAAAAAAAAAAA
JEALOUS
BWAAAAAAAAAAA
PPRATOOOWW
THERE HE IS!
BRADABRADABR
!
HEY, MR. NATURAL!!


HEY, LISTEN, I—
ISN'T THERE A LAW AGAINST DRIVING MOTORIZED VEHICLES ON THESE PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS? IF THERE ISN'T, THERE OUGHT TO BE!
AH HA HA!
THAT SEEMS AN AWFULLY PETTY CONCERN FOR ONE OF YOUR SUPPOSED HIGH SPIRITUAL STATURE!
OH DOES IT??
LISTEN, I WONDER IF YOU'D—
WHAT'S SHE DOING?
I WONDER IF YOU'D MIND PERFORMING THAT STUNT YOU PUT ON IN FRONT OF FLAKEY FOONT A FEW DAYS AGO... YOU KNOW, THE ONE WHERE YOU SHOWED HIM YOUR "TRUE SELF" THROUGH THE ILLUSION OF SEEMING TO GROW TALLER..?
NO...
OKAY, WE'RE ROLLING!
AH HM!
WHRRR
WELL, THEN, AT LEAST TELL US ABOUT THE ECKT ACK... JUST GO AHEAD AND TALK... YOU DON'T MIND IF WE VIDEO RECORD, DO YOU?
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE ECKT ACK...
HOW'S IT LOOK, TUKI?
FINE..
WHRRR
OKAY... Y'KNOW, I'M BEGINNING TO HAVE MY DOUBTS AS TO WHETHER YOU INDEED AUTHENTICALLY POSSESS ANY OF THE SPECIAL POWERS THAT SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE YOU POSSESS...
FOR INSTANCE, DO YOU CLAIM TO HAVE THE POWER TO PROJECT THOUGHTS AND IMAGES INTO THE MINDS OF OTHER PEOPLE??
YER DARN TOOTIN' I DO!
WHRRRR
WOULD YOU CARE TO TALK ABOUT THAT? MAYBE EVEN GIVE US A DEMONSTRATION?
ABOUT A HALF HOUR..
HOW MUCH TIME HAVE WE GOT ON THE TAPE, TUKES?
OKAY GREAT!
I—

HEY, MR. NATURAL! DIDJA EVER NOTICE HOW SERIOUS TUKI IS ABOUT HER WORK?? SHE'S VERY, VERY SERIOUS ABOUT IT!
HEH HEH, CUTE, HUH?!
FUCK YOU, ASSHOLE!
I—
NO, REALLY, SHE'S VERY TALENTED, VERY SKILLFUL WITH THAT CAMERA! SHE'S MADE SOME WONDERFUL VIDEO WORKS — SO, OKAY, GO AHEAD, MR. NATURAL, DO YOUR STUFF! PROJECT SOME THOUGHT INTO MY HEAD!
I—
WHIRR
AND THEN I'LL REVEAL WHAT THE THOUGHT IS THAT YOU'VE PROJECTED — IF IN FACT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF IT... HEH HEH...
I KNOW! LET'S STAND UP TO DO IT! ...MAKE IT MORE INTERESTING FOR TUKI, OKAY?
WHIRR
ALRIGHT! GO AHEAD! I'M CONCENTRATING, CLEARING ALL THOUGHTS FROM MY MIND, GETTING RID OF MY EGO...
I'M READY TO RECEIVE...
OKAY, HERE GOES....
WHRRR
SHUMAN, YOU ARE REALLY A SHMUCK.
WHRR
YEAH, WELL, HEY, TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE... HA HA... WHAT A COMEDIAN! YOU CRACK ME UP! ....BUT THAT DOESN'T COME ACROSS ON VIDEO, ANYWAY — LET'S TRY SOMETHING ELSE...
ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN'T GIVE US SOMETHING MORE VISUAL??
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WITH THIS TAPE, SHUMAN?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU BUT PERSONALLY I THINK IT MIGHT BE HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT TO PROVE TO THE WORLD THAT YOU POSSESS THESE INCREDIBLE SPIRITUAL POWERS, AND MAYBE, YOU KNOW, WE COULD ALL BENEFIT FINANCIALLY IN THE PROCESS! OKAY? FAIR ENOUGH?
AH HM, I SEE... IN THAT CASE, I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE SOMETHING IN WRITING BEFORE WE PROCEED ANY FURTHER...
BY THE WAY, HOW'S YOUR MOM, ED?
?
WHY? DON'T YOU TRUST ME? SOUNDS LIKE SOME KIND OF A COP-OUT TO ME! MAYBE THERE AREN'T ANY SPIRITUAL POWERS TO SHOW! IZZAT POSSIBLE?!
HOW DO I KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO THE TAPE?! WHO ARE YOU GONNA SHOW IT TO? WHAT'S MY CUT? WHAT'S YOUR CUT? WHERE'S MY ADVANCE??
BOR-R-RING!
OH MAN—LOOK, YOU HAVE MY WORD OF HONOR... LET US TAPE YOU NOW, AND THEN WE'LL HAMMER OUT ALL THE DETAILS AN' SIGN PAPERS LATER! COME ON, LET'S GO FOR IT!
NO, I WANT TO SEE SOMETHING IN WRITING BEFORE I DO ANYTHING IN FRONT OF YOUR DAMN VIDEO CAMERA!
BUT— BUT—
WHHRR
GOOD DAY TO YOU, SIR!
FUCKING LITTLE PRICK!
F-F-FUCK!
PUT THAT STUPID THING AWAY BEFORE I TAKE IT AND SMASH IT OVER YOUR HEAD!
YOU'RE CUTE WHEN YOU'RE PISSED!!
WHHRR

THE SAINTS

featuring MR. NATURAL, FLAKEY FOONT, WENDY & REBECCA

FLAKEY FOONT... NICE TO SEE YOU, BUT I'M RATHER BUSY AT THE MOMENT...
OH, SORRY... IT'S JUST THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR WEEKS AND I CAN I COME BACK LATER, OR MAYBE, I DUNNO... I ?...
ALRIGHT ALRIGHT, COME IN... YOU CAN TALK TO ME WHILE I PACK...
THANK YOU... BELIEVE ME, I'VE TRIED TO STAY AWAY, NOT WANTING TO BE A PEST, BUT I—
PACK??
ARE YOU GOING SOME-WHERE??
YEAH, I'M CATCHING AN EARLY FLIGHT TO L.A. TOMORROW MORNING... BE OUT THERE FOR TWO WEEKS...SO, WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, MY BOY??
L.A.?!
OH, I'M PUTTING ON SOME SEMINARS FOR PEOPLE IN THE ENTERTAIN-MENT INDUSTRY...
SEMINARS FOR PEOPLE IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY??
I'LL NEVER WEAR THIS "GRATE-FUL DEAD" T-SHIRT... "DEVIL GIRL" GAVE IT TO ME FIVE YEARS AGO FOR CHRISTMAS... YOU WANT IT??
NO...
YEAH, SURE! I EXHORT THEM TO DISCOVER THEIR INNER SELVES... THEY LOVE ME! THEY PAY ME VERY WELL FOR MY SER-VICES! HELL, IN A COUPLA YEARS I'LL BE ABLE TO RETIRE!?
OH... I SEE...
CHUCKLE
NO YOU DON'T... YOU LOOK ALL SHOCKED AND DISILLU-SIONED!
WELL, I SUPPOSE IF YOU CAN GET THOSE CHARACTERS TO LET GO OF THEIR OBSESSIONS WITH POWER AND GREED YOU'RE DOING THE WORLD A BIG FAVOR...

OH, HERE'S MISTER SELF-RIGHTEOUS OVER HERE! HEY, LISTEN, SOME A'THEM ARE VERY SMART, VERY NICE PEOPLE!
"NICE" PEOPLE... BUNCH OF RUTHLESS, CUT-THROAT POWER-MONGERING, OPPORTUNISTIC...UH...UH...
NORMAL HUMAN BEINGS, IN OTHER WORDS-ONLY BETTER AT IT THAN, SAY, YOU, FOR EXAMPLE..
I BET YOU ACTUALLY GO AROUND THINKING YOU COULD MAKE BETTER MOVIES THAN THEM IF YOU WERE IN THEIR POSITION!
HA HA HA
SO DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THEM, CHANGE THEM FOR THE BETTER? OR ARE YOU JUST IN IT FOR THE MONEY? TELL THE TRUTH!
SIGH... WELL, YEAH, I DUNNO.., MAYBE I EFFECT THEIR MORALITY A LITTLE BIT HERE AN' THERE.., NOT MUCH...A LITTLE TEENZY BIT...ABOUT THIS MUCH...
THAT'S SOMETHING ANYWAY...
IT'S TOUGH TO GET 'EM TO STOP THINKIN' ABOUT THEIR LATEST DEAL FOR TWO SECONDS...
SO WHAT DO YOU TELL THOSE HOLLYWOOD TYPES??
IT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I MIGHT SAY TO YOU OR TO MRS. YEHOOTIE...
WELL, THEN AGAIN, IT IS DIFFERENT, BUT NOW LET'S FOCUS OUR ATTENTION ON WHAT'S GOT YOU ALL IN A DITHER--IT'S THE OLD SEX QUESTION, ISN'T IT??
ULP! IS IT THAT OBVIOUS? JEEZIZ, I'M SO EMBARRASSED!
YEAH, YOU WEAR IT ON YER SLEEVE, MAN! YA KNOW, IF YOU WERE AS FIXATED ON MONEY AS YOU ARE ON SEX YOU COULD BE JUST LIKE ONE A' THEM BIG MOVIE MOGULS!
GNRF
BUT THAT'S OKAY... YOUR SEX OBSESSION IS LESS OF A PLAGUE ON THE REST OF US THAN THEIR MONEY OBSESSION. SO I GUESS THAT MAKES YOU A MORALLY SUPERIOR PERSON! TA HA HA HA!
YOU'RE VERY WITTY THIS AFTERNOON, MR. NATURAL!

BUT AS USUAL, YOU'RE RIGHT. I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT WOMEN, AND—AND, UM.. UH...
PLAYING WITH YOURSELF...
WELL, THERE IT IS... YES.. HO BOY... AND THEN I FEEL SO— SO —
—ASHAMED AND GUILTY 'CAUSE OF YOUR HIDDEN DESIRE TO CHEAT ON YOUR WIFE, IF ONLY IN YOUR DREAMS!
YOU'RE BRUTALLY FRANK, BUT, YES, THAT'S HOW IT IS.. MY OWN PERSONAL HELL... IT'S A HORRIBLE DILEMMA!
I-I WAS HOPING YOU COULD TELL ME SOMETHING, GIVE SOME CLUE TO A SOLUTION... GOD KNOWS I'VE TRIED —
NO YOU HAVEN'T... NOT REALLY.. ALL THE SAME, I DON'T WANT TO BE A LITTLE TIN JESUS AND CONDEMN YOU FOR YOUR NORMAL HUMAN WEAKNESS IN THE FACE OF A VERY COMPLEX ISSUE...
...AND ON TOP OF ALL THAT YOU OFTEN FIND YOURSELF SINKING INTO A TORPOR OF DESPAIR AND SELF-PITY BECAUSE YOU LACK THE SELF-CONFIDENCE TO ACTUALLY MAKE A MOVE TOWARD ANY WOMAN YOU'RE ATTRACTED TO, AND THEN YOU HATE YOURSELF FOR YOUR TIMIDITY, NOT TO MENTION A FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS TO CONTROL THESE LOWLY ANIMALISTIC DESIRES!!
OH GOD, IT'S ALL TRUE... TOO TRUE!! THANK YOU FOR BEING SO UNDERSTANDING, MR. NATURAL... IT'S SUCH A RELIEF JUST TO BE ABLE TO CONFIDE IN SOMEONE... REALLY, I—
YOU'RE PATHETIC...
YAWP
BUT—BUT WHAT'S THE ANSWER? I WANT TO DO THE RIGHT THING, THE—THE HIGHER SPIRITUAL THING, THE MORALLY IMPECCABLE THING! I JUST DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN... I'M GOING OUT OF MY MIND!
I THINK I CAN HELP YOU, FLAKEY FOONT! I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED TO DO RIGHT NOW.. THERE'S THIS GIRL I MET RECENTLY... AH HM, YEPPA-ZOOTIE!
GIRL?? DID YOU SAY... GIRL??
YES... SHE IS PRACTICING RITUAL MOVEMENTS IN THE PARK AT THIS VERY MOMENT... I'LL TAKE YOU TO MEET HER IF YOU LIKE...
STROKE
STROKE

YA MEAN RIGHT NOW??
SURE! WHY NOT? SEE? ALL FINISHED PACKING AND READY TO GO!
QUAINT, HUH?
THE OLD WAYS ARE BEST!
YE OLDE POKE
HOW DO YOU KNOW SHE'LL BE IN THE PARK, MR. NATURAL? YOU CAN SEE HER BY USING YOUR TELE-PATHIC ABILITIES?
NO, I KNOW SHE'LL BE IN THE PARK 'CAUSE SHE'S UNDER ORDERS TO BE THERE AT THIS TIME OF THE AFTERNOON, ON TUESDAYS, WEDNES-DAYS AND FRIDAYS TO PRACTICE CERTAIN POWER EXERCISES I TAUGHT HER... DON'T WORRY, SHE'S THERE!
GIZMO
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THE LAST FE-MALE YOU INTRODUCED ME TO WAS THAT HELL-CAT CHERYL BORCK! MAN, SHE PUT ME THROUGH THE WRINGER!*
OH MY GOD, SO YOU DID!
AH, YOU GOT YOUR THRILLS OFFA THAT THING! AND ALSO, DON'T FORGET HOW I SET YOU UP WITH YOUR WIFE 'WAY BACK WHEN... YOU WERE SO INEFFECTUAL I PRACTICALLY HAD TO TAKE YOUR DICK AN' STICK IT IN FOR YOU!*
* SEE "HUD" #S 1, 2, 3 & 4, 1987-'92, & "MR. NATURAL" #2, 1971!
JEEZ, WHATAYA TRYIN' TO DO, KILL ME WITH THESE WOMEN?? IS IT SOME KIND OF TEST OR SOMETHING??
SO GO ROUND UP YOUR OWN WOMEN THEN, AND DON'T COME CRYING TO ME...
SHH! NO MORE COMPLAINING! THERE SHE IS, JUST LIKE I SAID, DOING HER MOVE-MENTS LIKE A GOOD LITTLE APPREN-TICE!
Y'MEAN THE BLONDE? WOW! SHE'S CUTE ALRIGHT! TEE HEE GIGGLE..
NO, THAT'S REBECCA... SHE'S FOR ME... THE OTHER ONE, WENDY, IS MORE YOUR SPEED...
OH..

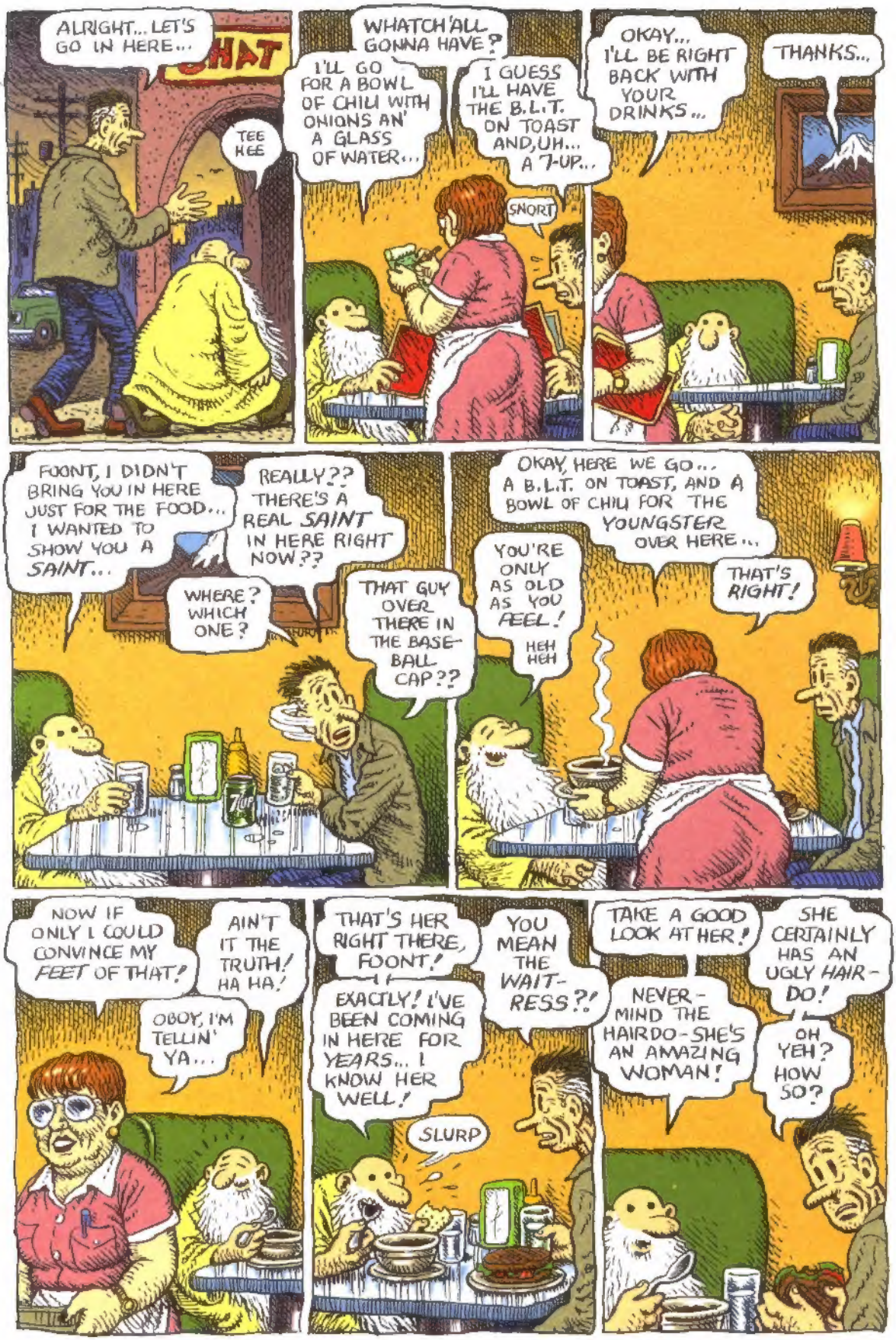
NOW LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY BEFORE WE GO UP THERE, FRUITCAKE... WHEN YOU MEET THIS GIRL, YOU MUST REMAIN CALM... I'M WARNING YOU – DON'T PANIC!!
JEEZIZ, GIVE ME A LITTLE CREDIT, WILLYA? I'M NOT A TOTAL SPASTIC, YA KNOW..
IF YOU LOSE YOUR COOL AT THE OUTSET, THAT'S IT, YOU'RE FINISHED!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD PUT ON THESE SHADES SO SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE HOW NERVOUS YOU ARE..
COME ON! I DON'T NEED THOSE! SHE'S NOT THAT FABULOUS, FOR CHRISSAKE!
SHE'S VERY SPECIAL... YOU'LL SEE!
I THINK I CAN HANDLE IT, OKAY?
OKAY, REMEMBER, YOU'VE BEEN WARNED..
JEEZIZ, RIDICULOUS...
OH! MR. NATURAL!!!
OH MY GOD!
THEY BOTH OBVIOUSLY THINK HE'S GOD!
WELL, WELL.., HELLO!
!?
I'M SO EMBARRASSED!
HAVE YOU BEEN WATCHING US LONG??
YOU'RE DOING GREAT, BOTH OF YOU! ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MY VERY GOOD FRIEND, FLAKEY FOONT!
FLAKEY, THIS IS REBECCA, AND THIS IS WENDY!
HI...
HI...
H-H-ULP.. H-ULP!
UH, LISTEN, I'LL BE AWAY FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS...
"DON'T PANIC!"
"STAY CALM!"
OH, REALLY??
I'M AFRAID SO, BUT I WANT YOU TO KEEP UP THE PROGRAM!

PSSST! FOONT! DON'T STARE! LOOK AT HER FOREHEAD ABOVE THE EYE! QUICK!
AHEM! COUGH COUGH!
YOU'RE THE SHY, SENSITIVE TYPE...A REAL ECTOMORPH... I CAN TELL!
YES, WELL, I— UM...
TEE HEE..
OHH... FEEL DIZZY...
NAUSEOUS!
ORP
GOTTA TEAR MY EYES AWAY OR I'LL VOMIT... DON'T WANNA BE SICK...
I LIKE GUYS LIKE THAT!
YOU DO?
WHERE'S THAT SILLY MUSIC COMING FROM??
WHU—? NOW SHE HAS TWO EYES— SORT OF... SHIFTING... WHOA... STEADY...
YOU DON'T THINK I'M WEIRD, DO YOU?
HYUK HYUK
HYUK HYUK
N-NOT AT ALL... IT'S ONLY THAT I—
...THAT I'M LOSING MY MIND...CAN'T FOCUS...MIGHT PASS OUT..
ALOTTA GUYS CAN'T EVEN LOOK!
AT THE SAME TIME I'M SORT OF ATTRACTED TO HER... "DON'T STARE"... ..OHH NO-O...
IT'S NOT MY FAULT.. I CAN'T HELP IT...
HEY, IT'S THE MAGIC OF COMICS!
FEEL BETTER NOW...SEX- UALLY EXCITED.. GOT A HARD-ON FOR HER...
MR. NATU- RAL! WHERE ARE YOU?
I LIKE YOU ALOT! LET'S GO OVER HERE...
THERE HE IS, HIDING IN THE BUSHES! HE'S NAKED AND HE'S... PLAYING A HARP??
THAT'S WHERE THAT WACKY MUSIC IS COMING FROM!!
SHE TOLD ME SHE LOVED ME BUT OH HOW SHE LIED OH HOW SHE LIED OH HOW SHE LIED

MY POOR HEART IS ACHIN' AND OH HOW I CRIED—
UNH
OH MY GOD! IT'S NOT A HARP! IT'S THAT BEAUTIFUL GIRL!!
SPLORP GLORP
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BIZNESS, FOONT! GO PAY ATTENTION TO WENDY! G'WAN!!
UNH!
SPLOP SLORP BLUP!
OH! 'SCUSE ME!
SORRY!
SHE IS A PRETTY CUTE GIRL— I JUST HAFTA AVOID DIRECT EYE CONTACT— "LOOK AT HER FOREHEAD"...
ULP GULP
YA DO LIKE ME THEN?!
OH, YES, I DO! VERY MUCH!
THE EYE! IT'S CAUGHT ME AGAIN!
SHE WANTS TO MO
ERK! HUH? WHAT... OKAY...
HNGA AHR!

SOME TIME LATER
AH, THERE YOU ARE, FOONT! I TRUST ALL WENT WELL WITH WENDY?
I'M SPEECH-LESS!
'ALL WENT WELL WITH WENDY"... 'AT'S FUNNY...
MAN OH MAN, WHAT A TRIP!
ISN'T SHE THOUGH?? I COULD SEE RIGHT AWAY THAT SHE LIKED YOU! YOU COULD BE SERVICING HER ON A REGULAR BASIS IF YOU WANTED TO!
PLOP!
SHE WANTS ME TO MEET HER AGAIN ON FRIDAY IN THE SAME PLACE! WOW! THAT WAS PRETTY FABULOUS, BUT I DUNNO IF I CAN HANDLE IT!
SURE YA CAN! I'M GLAD IT WORKED OUT.. NOW Y'GET TA CHEAT ON YER WIFE! YA HAPPY?
HOW COME YOU DIDN'T TELL ME SHE WAS A— A CYCLOPS, FOR GOD'S SAKE!? I ALMOST PASSED OUT!!
THE SHOCK WAS GOOD FOR YOU... IT WAS ALL PRE-MEDITATED, I ASSURE YOU!
YOU SHOULD THANK ME.. HEH HEH
MAN, THAT ONE EYE HAD SUCH A POWERFUL EFFECT ON ME- I DIDN'T KNOW IF I WAS COMING OR GOING... IT WAS— PSYCHEDELIC!
I WARNED YOU TO LOOK AT HER FOREHEAD... THE STRUGGLE ACTIVATED YOUR THIRD EYE, IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING... YOU WERE FORCED TO SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY... YOU'RE NOT USED TO THAT...
IS SHE AN ALIEN? ...AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL ENTITY OR SOMETHING??
NO... SHE'S FROM NEW JERSEY... SOME SMALL TOWN IN A RURAL PART OF THE STATE... THERE WAS INBREEDING IN HER FAMILY.. SHE'S GOT A BROTHER WITH THREE EYES AND HER MOTHER HAS TWO ASSHOLES...
RILLY?! OH...
HEY, IT'S 'TH' NATCH!
IN SPITE OF THAT SHE'S QUITE BRIGHT, WENDY... WELL-READ, HAS AN ACTIVE, CURIOUS MIND, A GREAT IMAGINATION, AND SHE'S VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH - AND WILD AND ABANDONED DURING THE SEX ACT, I'M SURE YOU WOULD AGREE!
YOU SEEM TO KNOW HER RATHER INTIMATELY!
YEAH WE PORKED...

THEY BOTH ADORE ME, WENDY AND REBECCA... THEY'D DO ANYTHING FOR ME... USUALLY I JUST LET THEM BLOW ME AN' THEN I SPLIT...
YES, I... I SAW.... Y'KNOW, SOMETIMES... I GOTTA TELL YA...
SOMETIMES YOU SEEM TO DWELL IN THE HIGHEST REALMS OF SPIRITUALITY, AND THEN, OTHER TIMES YOU STRIKE ME AS CYNICAL AND OPPORTUNISTIC... IT CAN BE DEEPLY DISTURBING!
HEY, THEY LOVE TO SUCK IT! WHO'M I TO DEPRIVE THEM??
TEE HEE
NO, MY FRIEND, I AM NOT A SAINT... I WISH YOU'D QUIT TRYIN'TA PIN THAT NONSENSE ON ME AWREADY!
LET ME BREATHE, WILL YA?!
CHRIST ALMIGHTY!
WHOOEY!
BUT—
BUT NOTHING! YOU WANNA SEE A REAL SAINT? I'LL POINT ONE OUT TO YA SOMETIME... Y'KNOW WHAT? I'M FAMISHED! HOW 'BOUT YOU?!
I SHOULD GO HOME FOR DINNER, BUT I GUESS I COULD CALL RUTH AN' TELL HER TO GO AHEAD WITHOUT ME—DON'T THINK SHE'D CARE... LET ME THINK...
LET'S GO IN THERE AND GRAB A BITE, WHAT-AYA SAY?
IN THERE??
CHAT 'N' CHEW
GOOD FOOD
YEAH, SURE... COME ON!
THERE MUST BE A BETTER PLACE THAN THAT AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE—ALTHOUGH IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD MAYBE NOT!
WE COULD TAKE MY CAR AND GO OVER TO GASLIGHT SQUARE... THERE'S SEVERAL GOOD PLACES TO EAT AROUND THERE...
WHATAYA THINK??
CHAT 'N'


ALRIGHT... LET'S GO IN HERE...
HAT
TEE HEE
WHATCH'ALL GONNA HAVE?
I'LL GO FOR A BOWL OF CHILI WITH ONIONS AN' A GLASS OF WATER...
I GUESS I'LL HAVE THE B.L.T. ON TOAST AND, UH... A 7-UP...
SNORT
OKAY... I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH YOUR DRINKS...
THANKS...
FOONT, I DIDN'T BRING YOU IN HERE JUST FOR THE FOOD... I WANTED TO SHOW YOU A SAINT...
REALLY?? THERE'S A REAL SAINT IN HERE RIGHT NOW??
WHERE? WHICH ONE?
THAT GUY OVER THERE IN THE BASE-BALL CAP??
OKAY, HERE WE GO... A B.L.T. ON TOAST, AND A BOWL OF CHILI FOR THE YOUNGSTER OVER HERE...
YOU'RE ONLY AS OLD AS YOU FEEL!
HEH HEH
THAT'S RIGHT!
NOW IF ONLY I COULD CONVINCE MY FEET OF THAT!
AIN'T IT THE TRUTH! HA HA!
OBOY, I'M TELLIN' YA...
THAT'S HER RIGHT THERE, FOONT!
EXACTLY! I'VE BEEN COMING IN HERE FOR YEARS... I KNOW HER WELL!
YOU MEAN THE WAIT-RESS?!
SLURP
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT HER!
NEVER-MIND THE HAIRDO - SHE'S AN AMAZING WOMAN!
SHE CERTAINLY HAS AN UGLY HAIR-DO!
OH YEH? HOW SO?

SHE'S BEEN WAITING ON TABLES FOR THIRTY-FIVE YEARS, PLUS, RAISED A FAMILY OF FIVE KIDS, AND NOW TAKES CARE OF SOME OF THE GRANDCHILDREN AND A INVALID FATHER-IN-LAW OF ONE A' HER DAUGHTERS... YET THERE'S NOT AN OUNCE OF BITTERNESS OR SELF-PITY IN THAT WOMAN'S BODY.!!
SHE STILL LIKES PEOPLE! CAN YOU BEAT IT??
HM!
CHOFF GULP
NOW THAT'S A SAINT, WOULDN'T YA SAY?
MAYBE SHE'S JUST, YOU KNOW, STUPID... NOT INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO KNOW ANY BETTER...
AH HA HA! NOW WHO'S BEING THE BIG CYNICAL ASSHOLE!?
ULP!
SEE, YOU JUST LIVE IN YER OWN HEAD ALL THE TIME, FOONT... CONSEQUENTLY, YOU MISS ALOTTA THINGS...
OH YEAH?? YA THINK SO??
HEADS UP!
FART
YEAH... THAT'S WHY YOU COULD-N'T SEE THE ECKT ACK....
...AN' THAT'S WHY I SET YOU UP WITH WENDY— EUREKA! I SEE ANOTHER SAINT!
HUH? WHERE??
THAT OLD BUSINESS— MAN OVER THERE, WITH THE BRIEFCASE...OWNS A SMALL MANUFACTURING PLANT... ALL HIS EMPLOYEES LOVE HIM... IMPECCABLE INTEGRITY... A DEEPLY GOOD MAN... UNFORTUNATELY, HE HASN'T TAKEN SUCH GOOD CARE OF HIS OWN HEALTH... MIGHT DIE SOON...
REALLY?? DO YOU KNOW HIM?
NO... NEVER SAW 'IM BEFORE...
THEN HOW CAN YOU TELL ALL THAT? HOW DO YOU KNOW—?
I FEEL IT...
IN MY GUTS...
RIGHT HERE...
HUNH...
I BETTER GO HOME...
RIGHT... I GOTTA REST UP FOR MY TRIP TO L.A. TOMORROW...AN' DON'T STEW OVER THIS SAINT THING... YOU DON'T WANNA BE ONE...ANYWAY IT'S A GIFT... SEE YOU AROUND....
OKAY... HAVE A GOOD TRIP...
I HATE HIM! I WANT TO HURT HIM SOMETIMES... I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY...
END

"I DON'T GET IT"